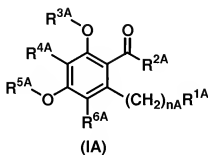


a.) Amendment to the Claims

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) A benzoyl compound represented by formula (IA):



~~wherein~~ wherein

nA represents an integer of 1 to 5;

R^{1A} represents substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy carbonyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, CONR⁷R⁸ (wherein R⁷ and R⁸ independently represent a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkanoyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or R⁷

and R⁸ form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group together with the adjacent nitrogen atom) or NR⁹R¹⁰ (wherein R⁹ and R¹⁰ have the same meanings as the above R⁷ and R⁸, respectively);

R^{2A} represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl;

R^{3A}, R^{4A} and R^{5A} each represent a hydrogen atom; and

R^{6A} represents ~~halogen, lower alkyl or aryl~~ halogen or lower alkyl, and

wherein (i) substituents in the substituted lower alkyl, the substituted lower alkoxy and the substituted lower alkoxy carbonyl are 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group (A) consisting of hydroxy, oxo, cyano, nitro, carboxy, amino, halogen, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, cycloalkyl, lower alkanoyl, lower alkoxy carbonyl, lower alkylamino and di-lower alkylamino, wherein substituents in said substituted lower alkoxy are 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and halogen, and

(ii) substituents in the substituted cycloalkyl, the substituted heterocyclic alkyl, the substituted aryl, the substituted lower alkanoyl, the substituted heterocyclic group, the substituted aralkyl, the substituted aroyl and the substituted heterocyclic group formed together with the adjacent nitrogen atom are 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group (B) consisting of hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, amino, carboxy, carbamoyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, aralkyloxy, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower alkylsulfanyl, cycloalkyl, lower alkoxy carbonyl, lower alkylamino, di-lower alkylamino, lower alkanoyl,

a heterocyclic group, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic alkyloxy and substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic carbonylalkyloxy, wherein substituents in said substituted lower alkyl, said substituted lower alkoxy and said substituted aryl are 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, lower alkoxy, cyano, lower alkylamino and di-lower alkylamino, and substituents in said substituted heterocyclic alkyloxy and said substituted heterocyclic carbonylalkyloxy are 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy and a heterocyclic group}},

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) The benzoyl compound according to claim 11, wherein R^{2A} is ~~substituted aryl having aryl substituted by~~ 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group (B), or aryl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claims 13 and 14 (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) The benzoyl compound according to claim 11 or 12, wherein R^{1A} is CONR⁷R⁸, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (Previously Presented) The benzoyl compound according to claim 11 or 12, wherein R^{6A} is lower alkyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as an active ingredient, the benzoyl compound according to claim 16 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said benzoyl compound, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 18-31 (Cancelled).

32. (Previously Presented) The benzoyl compound according to claim 11, wherein

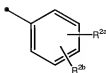
n_A is 1,

R^{1A} is $CONR^{7a}R^{8a}$ (wherein R^{7a} and R^{8a} independently represent lower alkyl substituted by hydroxyl or lower alkoxy), and

R^{6A} is lower alkyl,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

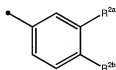
33. (Currently Amended) The benzoyl compound according to claim



32, wherein R^{2A} is

(wherein R^{2a} represents substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, and R^{2b} represents substituted or unsubstituted ~~heterocyclic-alkyl-oxy~~ heterocyclic alkyloxy, wherein substituents in said substituted lower alkoxy are 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, lower alkoxy, cyano, lower alkylamino and di-lower alkylamino, and substituents in said substituted heterocyclic alkyloxy are 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy and a heterocyclic group), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

34. (Currently Amended) The benzoyl compound according to claim

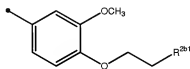


32, wherein R^{2A} is

(wherein R^{2a} represents substituted or unsubstituted lower alkoxy, and R^{2b} represents substituted or unsubstituted ~~heterocyclic-alkyl-oxy~~ heterocyclic alkyloxy, wherein substituents in said substituted lower alkoxy are 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, lower alkoxy, cyano,

lower alkylamino and di-lower alkylamino, and substituents in said substituted heterocyclic alkyloxy are 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy and a heterocyclic group), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

35. (Currently Amended) The benzoyl compound according to claim



32, wherein R^{2A} is

(wherein R^{2b1} represents substituted or unsubstituted morpholino or substituted or unsubstituted piperidino, wherein substituents in said substituted morpholino and said substituted piperidino are 1 to 3 substituents which are the same or different selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy and a heterocyclic group), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

36. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as an active ingredient, the benzoyl compound according to either one of claims 11 or 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said benzoyl compound, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

37. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as an active ingredient, the benzoyl compound according to claim 15, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said benzoyl compound, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

38. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as an active ingredient, the benzoyl compound according to any one of claims 32 to 35, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said benzoyl compound, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.